PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Seiji ISHIZUKA, et a

Appln. No. 09/851,416

Confirmation No.: 1903

Filed: May 09, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2871

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For:

OPTICAL COMPENSATORY SHEET PRODUCING METHOD AND APPARATUS,

THERMAL TREATING METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND DUST REMOVING

METHOD AND APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

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request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

English Language Abstracts of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 62-65872, 3-291601, 5-50419, 5-215921, 6-75115, 9-73081, 9-152509, 10-290964 and 10-309553 are submitted herewith as concise statements of relevance.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 23,063

May No. 41,278

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Date: September 4, 2001

Serial No.: 09/851,416 Atty. Docket No. U.S. Department of Commerce Form PTO-1449 Confirmation No.: 1903 Q64395 Patent & Trademark Office (Rev. 2-32) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Applicant: Seiji ISHIZUKA, et al. (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: Group: May 09, 2001 2871 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Filing Date Name Class Sub-Document Number Date Examiner Class (if appropriate) Initial 05/18/76 ISHIWATA, et al 15 302 3,956,790 15 256.5 03/25/86 TANAKA,et al 4,577,362 TAKIGUCHI, et al 428 1 11/12/91 5,064,697 73 YAMAHARA, et al 359 5,506,706 04/09/96 349 118 5,583,679 12/10/96 ITO, et al 05/20/97 ITO 428 1 5,631,051 349 118 KAMADA, et al 07/08/97 5,646,703 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation Country Class Sub-Date Document Yes/No class 5/30 YES G02B 04/28/99 EP 0 911 656 23/00 YES JР **B65H** 62-65872 03/25/87 YES 12/20/91 JР G02B 5/30 3-291601 JР B65H 23/00 YES 07/29/93 5-50419 G02B 5/30 YES 08/27/93 Љ 5-215921 5/30 YES G02B 03/18/94 JР 6-75115 JP G02F 1/335 YES 9-73081 03/18/97 06/10/97 JР G02B 5/30 YES 9-152509 5/00 YES JР B08B 11/04/98 10-290964 YES B08B 11/00 11/24/98 JP 10-309553 OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Abstracts DATE CONSIDERED: **EXAMINER:**

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.